

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER MICHALSKI

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Christopher Michalski of New York City, New York. Mr. Michalski is an asset to our fair city and a testament to the American dream.

Mr. Michalski was born on July 12, 1949 in a small city in Poland where he grew up with huge dreams of coming to America. While in school he studied architecture extensively and eventually received a master's degree in structural engineering. He instantly put his knowledge to good use by following in his family's footsteps to become a third generation church builder.

While Mr. Michalski was in his midtwenties, he was afforded an opportunity to migrate to America of which he eagerly took advantage. With strength and perseverance Chris was able to build a new life for himself and his family in New York City. He married his long-time love Dorothy and had two beautiful children, Monica and Eric.

Today, Chris Michalski can be found running his company, Solution New York Contracting Inc., while interacting with people from all over the world. He is a dog lover, a church builder, and a one-of-a-kind individual.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Chris Michalski: for his hard work and structural contributions to the city of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this intrepid individual who is fine example of the entrepreneurial spirit upon which America was built.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN TIMOTHY MCGOVERN, U.S. ARMY, OF IDAVILLE, INDIANA

#### HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army Captain Timothy McGovern of Idaville, Indiana, who died on October 31, 2007 while serving in Mosul, Iraq. Assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, Tim was leading his troops in a mission clearing roads of IEDs when his group came under fire and his Bradley was hit by a roadside bomb. Today I would like to take a moment to mourn a well-lived life cut tragically short.

After moving to Idaville as a teen, Tim graduated from Twin Lakes High School in 1997 where he excelled in honors classes and was a star in football and track. Even at that point it was clear what Tim was going to do with his

life, as his former football coach commented, "It didn't surprise me at all when he joined the armed forces and became an officer . . . that was just the kind of guy he was." And it probably didn't surprise anyone, for a career in the Army was in Tim's blood: just a year before he graduated from high school, his father Bill retired from the Army having achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Tim started on that path immediately following high school, when he joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps while attending Purdue University. Less than two years after his graduation from Purdue in 2001, Tim set off to serve the first of his two tours of duty in Iraq. "He was on his very first tour when the war in Iraq started, and when he came home, (he) didn't hesitate to do another," his uncle Mike recalls.

Although Tim was in the process of buying a house in El Paso, Texas, his heart remained with his family in Idaville and with the Chicago Bears. During his second tour of duty in Iraq, Tim was given a two-week pass to return home to the United States. He made sure to return home for the Superbowl, and Tim's parents will never forget their last moments spent at home with their beloved son. "He was a Bears fan," his mother Jonell said. "He was one of the few rooting for the Bears, him and his grandmother. That's going to stay in our minds for a really long time."

But if his heart was with his family, his passion and purpose was with the Army. As captain of a ninety-member company, Tim showed exemplary dedication to his duties as an officer and to the safety and well-being of his men. His mother noted, "He said the thing he was the most proud of was that he had not sent anybody home injured and that nobody had been killed from his group. To him, that meant he was doing his job." Safety did not mean staying away from where the action was, however. He assumed command of Company E from Captain Tim Hudson, who said "We both chose to go to El Paso and Fort Bliss, and we both came here for the same reason. And that was to come out here and command soldiers in combat." Having commanded Company E for twenty months, Captain Hudson could only praise Tim's work upon assuming command in June. "I put my heart and soul into this company," Hudson said. "And after he took over, Echo Company only got better."

What was Tim's secret to being an excellent commander? He may well have shared it with 1st Lieutenant Michael Holbrook. "He told me there was no greater honor than leading American soldiers in combat. I'm going to remember that until the day I hang up my uniform."

A private man, Tim would not have wanted all the attention placed on his life. "He wouldn't have liked this," said his mother. "He would have wanted people to be thinking about the other soldiers still over there fighting." For that reason, I wish to remember those soldiers Tim commanded in Echo Company still serving in Mosul, and all those serv-

ing in Iraq and Afghanistan. Indeed, may we keep all those in the Armed Forces in our hearts and prayers as a way of honoring and remembering Tim's outstanding service and loyal dedication to our great nation.

### CONGRATULATING ERICA FRENCH OF LOWERY ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Erica French, a teacher at Lowery Road Elementary School in Fort Worth, Texas. Ms. French was chosen as one of fourteen recipients of the 2007–2008 Chairs for Teaching Excellence award.

The Fort Worth School District recognizes the teachers, and to be chosen, you must be nominated by a principal, parent, or colleague. The selection process also entails an interview and an evaluated teaching demonstration. The teachers were presented with their awards at the Petroleum Club of Fort Worth.

It is my honor to represent a teacher such as Ms. French in the 26th District of Texas. Her dedication to education, her school, and her students and families of Fort Worth, Texas should be viewed as an example for all.

### TRIBUTE TO MACK HARMON

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mack Harmon, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 412, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Mack has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Mack has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mack Harmon for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### INTRODUCTION OF PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION FOR ALL ACT

#### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Property Tax Deduction for All Act,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

legislation making the property tax deduction an "above-the-line" deduction. This simple change makes the property tax deduction available to homeowners who do not file an itemized tax return.

The Property Tax Deduction for All Act will help millions of Americans who struggle with high property taxes, but because they do not itemize, are unable to take advantage of the Federal deduction for property taxes. Extending the property tax deduction to all homeowners will especially benefit senior citizens, whose homes often are the major part of their wealth, and young families struggling to cope with the costs of owning a new home. I respectfully urge my colleagues to help ensure all homeowners can take advantage of the tax deduction for property taxes by cosponsoring this legislation.

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IN RECOGNITION OF OPERATION  
COMMUNITY SHIELD

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**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the Dallas Field Office of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Detention and Removal Operations agents who participated in Operation Community Shield—an annual, national law enforcement initiative that brings together federal, state, and local law enforcement to fight gang violence, drug smuggling and organized crime linked to illegal immigration.

I applaud the remarkable accomplishments they produced in just seven days of Operation Community Shield: 120 gang members arrested, including members from 28 alien gangs, 63 criminal arrests, and 8 firearms and over 4,000 grams of marijuana and cocaine seized.

Thanks to Operation Community Shield, numerous murderers, rapists, and drug dealers have been taken off our streets. With the collaborative work of federal, state, and local law enforcement, Operation Community Shield enables officers to more effectively communicate between agencies, developing a "force multiplier" effect in fighting against violent gangs and criminal illegal immigrants. Consequently, I believe that this important initiative represents a critical step in addressing the illegal immigration problem facing our community and nation.

Madam Speaker, I would further like to give recognition to the leadership of John Chakwin, ICE Special Agent-in-Charge, and Mrs. Nuria T. Prendes, Director for Detention and Removal Operations. Both have remarkable staffs that support the mission in light of the challenging times in our nation, and their steadfast commitment is one we can all be proud of in Dallas, Texas.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
KRISTA SIEGFRIED FOR PLAC-  
ING SECOND IN THE MAN-  
CHESTER UMBRO INTER-  
NATIONAL CUP

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**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Krista Siegfried competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Krista Siegfried always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Krista Siegfried on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

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TRIBUTE TO BILL HAMPTON

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**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Hampton for receiving the 2007 Missouri Community College Association News Media Award. Mr. Hampton's work has been essential to the successes of Three Rivers Community College, TRCC.

Academic institutions such as TRCC require consistent and aggressive advocacy to advance opportunities for students. By using innovative means to connect more than 20,000 households to TRCC, Mr. Hampton has effectively conveyed the importance of this institution to our regional communities. Mr. Hampton's optimistic, community-minded message continues to foster necessary support for the college's growth and continued improvement.

With career experience in education, business, and government, Mr. Hampton understands the importance of higher education; he remains a generous supporter of the college as a private citizen. Mr. Hampton's contributions, both professionally and personally, have helped foster TRCC as the source for educational and career opportunities for the entire southern Missouri region.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Bill Hampton on winning this prestigious award. I ask that you join me along with the people of southern Missouri to congratulate him on this wonderful achievement and to wish him a happy and productive future.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIAHEALTH OF WAYNE COUNTY

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**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of ViaHealth of Wayne located in Newark, New York.

Newark Wayne Community Hospital opened its doors on April 1, 1957, and for 50 years it has provided the people of Wayne County and surrounding areas with quality medical care. The highly trained, dedicated staff is committed to providing superior health care to everyone who comes through the hospital doors.

The health care professionals at Newark Wayne Community Hospital offer a wide range of expertise, from heart and cancer care to providing living assistance for seniors. The incredible staff is able to offer care to everyone, using leading edge medical technology that ensures patients receive the best health care services possible.

I thank all of the individuals, families, and foundations whose hard work and dedication have been instrumental in making Newark Wayne Community Hospital a success. I congratulate all of you on reaching this important milestone and know that you will continue to serve the community proudly for another 50 years.

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HONORING JACKIE AND MOLLIE  
SINGER

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**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jackie and Mollie Singer, remarkable twin sisters from my district in Las Vegas, Nevada. At the age of four, Mollie was diagnosed with diabetes. Since that time, both sisters, now eighteen, have worked tirelessly to raise money and promote awareness of the disease which afflicts more than 20 million Americans.

The Singer sisters first came to my attention nearly ten years ago on their first visit to my office for the important advocacy work they began at such a young age. As part of their spirited efforts, Mollie and Jackie organize annual walks and numerous other events to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Altogether their efforts have raised more than \$500,000 for the cause. The sisters have also formed the Diabetic Angels, an international support group for those suffering from juvenile diabetes.

The Singer sisters have put a memorable face to this alarming medical crisis through speaking engagements, meetings with policy makers, and numerous print and television interviews. They have compiled many of their experiences into a booklet entitled "The Road to a Cure," which gives pointers to parents and kids on fundraising, health fairs, and public speaking. Members of my staff and I have had the pleasure of meeting with Mollie and Jackie and their family on many occasions through the years.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the work of Mollie and Jackie Singer and their family to raise awareness of diabetes and to work toward a cure, and I wish them continued success in their efforts.

CONGRATULATING KAZAKHSTAN  
ON ITS ELECTION AS CHAIR OF  
OSCE

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I welcome the unanimous decision of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to elect Kazakhstan its Chair-in-Office for 2010, reached on November 30, 2007 in Madrid.

This is undoubtedly a monumental event not only in the history of modern Kazakhstan, but also of the OSCE of which the United States is a member. For the first time, a country which in recent past was part of the Soviet Empire will lead this international institution. This vividly shows that Kazakhstan has managed to make a breakthrough from its communist past to a democratic future in a short time. This is also testimony to the evolutionary development of the OSCE itself. The Madrid decision, helps the OSCE strengthen its unity and become an organization of equal partners who sincerely believe in and are committed to ideals of democracy and freedom.

This is a stellar moment for the people of Kazakhstan, and a recognition of the long-standing efforts of their leader, President Nursultan Nazarbayev, on building a truly democratic and free society. President Nazarbayev has managed to achieve things leaders of many other countries can only dream of. To pull the country from the chaos of Soviet era and lead it towards the ranks of economically strong and democratically developed nations of the world in a little more than a decade takes incredible efforts, strategic vision and endless care for one's people. Today, Kazakhstan is a recognized leader in Central Asia, and I believe that, as Chair-in-Office, Kazakhstan will not only strengthen its leadership in that key region but will also help strengthen the OSCE's authority internationally, as well as improve mutual understanding and cooperation between East and West.

Madam Speaker, next week the people of Kazakhstan will celebrate the 16th anniversary of their independence and mark the establishment of Kazakhstan-U.S. diplomatic relations. We are proud that in these 16 years our relations have developed into a true strategic partnership. Kazakhstan has always been true to its commitments and has never wavered in its support for our nation.

I join my colleagues in congratulating our strategic ally and friend with its Chairmanship of OSCE in 2010 and with the 16th anniversary of independence. I strongly believe the opportunities Kazakhstan and our strategic partnership have to offer have not been fully explored. I wish the wise people of Kazakhstan and their leader Nursultan Nazarbayev happiness, well-being, and further prosperity.

CONGRATULATING THE L.D. BELL  
HIGH SCHOOL BLUE RAIDER  
MARCHING BAND

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the L.D. Bell High School Blue Raider Marching Band of Hurst, Texas, on being named the 2007 Bands of America Grand National Champion on November 17, 2007 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The L.D. Bell Blue Raider Marching Band has participated in the Bands of America Grand Nationals five times since 2001, placing 4th, 5th, 3rd, 2nd, and now 1st. They also received the highest achievement awards in the areas of Outstanding Music Performance and Outstanding General Effect. In the semi-finals round, the band received the highest score given in Bands of America history: an astounding 97.8.

The Band is capably led by Director of Bands Jeremy Earnhart, Assistant Director of Bands Jollette Wine, and Associate Band Directors Nick Thomas and Brandon Holt.

I sincerely commend the L.D. Bell High School Blue Raider Marching Band, their directors, and Drum Majors, for winning 1st place at the University Interscholastic League Bands of America Grand Nationals. Their hard work, dedication, desire to excel, and success in promoting and performing music deserves the highest recognition and congratulations. I'm very proud to represent these students and teachers in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ALEX LEAS FOR PLACING SECOND  
IN THE MANCHESTER  
UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Alex Leas competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Alex Leas showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Alex Leas has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Alex Leas was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Alex Leas always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Alex Leas on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

HONORING MRS. HELENA SNYDER  
ON THE CELEBRATION OF HER  
100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor Mrs. Helena Snyder, an outstanding American, on her 100th birthday. A resident of Riverside, Illinois, for over fifty years, Helena celebrated 100 years on November 7th of this year.

Born in Pekin, Illinois, to Sicilian parents, Helena grew up dreaming of a career in Chicago. After graduating high school, Helena left Pekin to pursue her dream and was hired by the offices of the U.S. District Attorney in Chicago. She remained employed there until 1939, when she married her husband Bernard Snyder.

Shortly after their first child was born, World War II began and Bernard enlisted in the Navy. Helena and their son Brad moved to California with him until he was sent overseas. Upon Bernard's return, Helena became a full-time homemaker and spent much of her valuable time volunteering for a number of different groups in her community. Notably, Helena has held many offices as a member of the Riverside Women's Club and served as president of the organization for two years.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mrs. Helena Snyder, an exceptional woman and pillar in the community, on the celebration of her 100th birthday. I am honored to have such an outstanding individual in my district and wish Helena and her family a joyous celebration.

TRIBUTE TO EFRAIN GUERRERO,  
AKA: "HAPPY"

**HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique American patriot, a South Texan whose pleasure is derived from making other people happy: Efrain Guerrero, also known as "Happy the Clown."

If you ever have the pleasure of talking to Happy, you will laugh too loud, and walk away wiping tears of laughter. If laughing is indeed good for our health, Happy is an extraordinary doctor.

Like every great American comedian, Happy delves deeply into the human condition—our habits, our reactions, our relationships, and all the things that make us laugh about ourselves, our families, and our lives.

Happy has a tremendous connection to people, using humor—and his exceptional personal charm—to inspire them and motivate them. He is an international award-winning entertainer and public speaker throughout Texas and the United States. As a motivational consultant, Happy has made countless presentations to schools, health organizations, and parent groups.

His humor is disarming. Happy recently brought down the room as a headliner at Harrah's Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas Nevada. He has written and co-produced comedy

CD's, and has been dubbed: a "Texas legend in entertainment."

Happy is one of the top twenty-five Latino comedians in the United States. Happy's performances have delighted thousands of diverse audiences who attend his comedy concerts, conventions, and private events throughout the United States, Mexico, and Puerto Rico.

Happy is a member of the Texas Magician's Association and uses a level of magic in his shows and presentations, for which he has also won numerous awards.

He has written and produced five comedy CD's: Happy Live Disconnected, El Pachuco Dude, Dale Gas, Happy Live! Chisquitito . . . and his most recent CD, Barely Reality. Happy also released two comedy DVD's, Happy Live! I and Happy Live! II.

On screen, Happy was featured in *Harvest of Redemption* (April 2005), an independent film about the journey of an angry young man in the Rio Grande Valley, circa 1920. Happy was the original host and co-producer of the comedy show *Que Loco!* on Galavision's network.

Happy's recent comedy show, *La Migra Gone Wild!* is a Tejano comedian's hysterical perspective of the chaos immigration is causing on both sides of the border . . . his latest installment of illustrating and illuminating through humor.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending my friend, Efrain Guerrero "Happy," for his intense and hysterical comedy that gives us all a hard look at ourselves and the world around us.

#### RECOGNIZING LAWSON CARDINALS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Lawson Cardinals high school football team on defeating Blair Oaks, by a score of 38-17, to win the Class 2 State Championship.

The Cardinals finished their incredible season by posting an unblemished record of 14-0 this season while scoring 501 points and only allowing 145 points. In the Championship game, the defense forced seven turnovers, resulting in 24 points from turnovers, third most in Show-Me Bowl history.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of the team, including Head Coach Todd Dunn and the work of his assistance coaches. I also want to acknowledge the work of school administrators, Superintendent Craig Barker, Principal Don Edwards and Assistant Principal Clint Ross, and Athletic Director Scott Harrold, as additional keys to success.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of Lawson Cardinals High School football team on their perfect season and state championship. It is an honor to represent this team in the United States Congress.

#### CONGRATULATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SPECIAL OLYMPIAN JESSICA CROOK OF LOGANSPORT, INDIANA

##### HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I am so proud to rise before you today to offer a word of congratulations to Special Olympian Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana for her accomplishments at this year's World Games in Shanghai, China and for being selected as a member of the 2007-2009 class of Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers.

Not only is Jessica the first Global Messenger to be selected from the State of Indiana, but she is an accomplished athlete as well. She became involved with the Special Olympics in 1999, with the Cass County Aquatics program. In June 2005, Jessica won a Gold Medal in the Summer Games, and followed up with two more in 2006. Also in 2006, Jessica won top honors in three events at the National Games.

This year, Jessica was one of seven Hoosiers representing Team USA at the World Games in Shanghai, China. She competed in three events at the World Games, held in November, placing 6th in the 50-meter Freestyle, winning a Silver Medal as part of the 4x50-meter Medley Relay team, and winning a Gold Medal in the 50-meter Butterfly.

As an International Global Messenger, Jessica will serve for two years as a voice of the Special Olympics. Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers (IGM) are a group of twelve Special Olympians from around the world that speak on behalf of the Special Olympics, appearing in various national and international media outlets. The new class, consisting of athletes from across the globe, is committed to the vision and benefits gained from participation in athletics. Jessica is the first Special Olympian athlete from Indiana to receive this distinguished appointment, and she is eager to relay the powerful declarations of hope, acceptance, dignity and courage of Special Olympics Athletes around the world.

Again, it is my honor to join with the constituents of Indiana's Second Congressional District and around the country in congratulating Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana, for her accomplishments at the 2007 Special Olympics World Games and for being selected as a Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger.

#### CONGRATULATING RILEY BELL

##### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Riley Bell, of Trinity Christian Academy, on qualifying for induction into the Spring 2007 National Honor Roll. Riley resides in The Colony, TX and is in her third year of high school at Trinity Christian.

The National Honor Roll offers several benefits that can contribute to the success of its student members. The National Honor Roll

chooses students based upon their academic performance. Each student that qualifies for induction must have a B average or better, and show ambition in areas such as grade point average, interests, activities, and future goals.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Riley Bell for her remarkable dedication to education and exemplary learning. Her commitment to her studies, her school, and her future should serve as an inspiration to all. I am honored to represent her in the 26th District of Texas.

#### TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH SIMONE

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Elizabeth Simone of Gladstone, Missouri. Elizabeth will be celebrating her 78th birthday on November 22nd and it is my privilege to offer her my warmest regards.

Elizabeth raised three children and has eight grandchildren, including my legislative attorney Dominic Lackey. Elizabeth is a talented pianist and now spends her days retired after serving as an accomplished secretary for the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent Elizabeth in the United States Congress, and I wish her all the best on this birthday and many more in the future.

#### VIOLENT RADICALIZATION AND HOMEGROWN TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT

##### HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably out of town on October 23, 2007, when a vote was taken on H.R. 1955, the Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against this misguided and dangerous piece of legislation. This legislation focuses the weight of the U.S. government inward toward its own citizens under the guise of protecting us against "violent radicalization."

I would like to note that this legislation was brought to the floor for a vote under suspension of regular order. These so-called "suspension" bills are meant to be non-controversial, thereby negating the need for the more complete and open debate allowed under regular order. It is difficult for me to believe that none of my colleagues in Congress view H.R. 1955, with its troubling civil liberties implications, as "non-controversial."

There are many causes for concern in H.R. 1955. The legislation specifically singles out the Internet for "facilitating violent radicalization, ideologically based violence, and the homegrown terrorism process" in the United States. Such language may well be the first step toward U.S. government regulation of

what we are allowed to access on the Internet. Are we, for our own good, to be subjected to the kind of governmental control of the Internet that we see in unfree societies? This bill certainly sets us on that course.

This seems to be an unwise and dangerous solution in search of a real problem. Previous acts of ideologically-motivated violence, though rare, have been resolved successfully using law enforcement techniques, existing laws against violence and our court system. Even if there were a surge of "violent radicalization"—a claim for which there is no evidence—there is no reason to believe that our criminal justice system is so flawed and weak as to be incapable of trying and punishing those who perpetrate violent acts.

This legislation will set up a new government bureaucracy to monitor and further study the as-yet undemonstrated pressing problem of homegrown terrorism and radicalization. It will no doubt prove to be another bureaucracy that artificially inflates problems so as to guarantee its future existence and funding. But it may do so at great further expense to our civil liberties. What disturbs me most about this legislation is that it leaves the door wide open for the broadest definition of what constitutes "radicalization." Could otherwise non-violent anti-tax, antiwar, or anti-abortion groups fall under the watchful eye of this new government commission? Assurances otherwise in this legislation are unconvincing.

In addition, this legislation will create a Department of Homeland Security-established university-based body to further study radicalization and to "contribute to the establishment of training, written materials, information, analytical assistance and professional resources to aid in combating violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism." I wonder whether this is really a legitimate role for institutes of higher learning in a free society.

Legislation such as this demands heavy-handed governmental action against American citizens where no crime has been committed. It is yet another attack on our Constitutionally-protected civil liberties. It is my sincere hope that we will reject such approaches to security, which will fail at their stated goal at a great cost to our way of life.

#### IN HONOR OF THE VARSITY VOLLEYBALL TEAM AT CANYON CREEK CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

#### HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the Varsity Volleyball team at Canyon Creek Christian Academy (CCCA) for winning the 2007 Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Volleyball State Championship.

Last weekend, CCCA defeated Austin Regents 3-1 in the semi-finals and then proceeded to face the Tyler All Saints in their final match. On November 10, 2007, CCCA emerged triumphant with the score of 3-0 and won the coveted title of 4A State Champions. This title speaks loudly of their hard work and discipline, which led to their victory. I commend them for dedicating the time and effort

to enhance their ability to perform as a team and skills and techniques of this great sport.

I congratulate the members of the volleyball team for their well-deserved victory and wish them all the best in future endeavors.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING STELLA GIRKINS FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Stella Girkins competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Stella Girkins always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Stella Girkins on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

#### TRIBUTE TO BEN AND MARTHA BIDEWELL

#### HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ben and Martha Bidewell for receiving the 2007 Missouri Community College Association Award of Distinction. Their vision and commitment to education has had an enduring impact on their community, State and Nation.

Three Rivers Community College (TRCC) has played a critical role in helping people of all ages develop the skills necessary to begin and sustain a productive career. For four decades, the Bidewells have generously contributed their time, efforts and financial resources to the betterment of TRCC, ensuring a brighter future for our State and Nation.

Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell both possess a deep sense of community and true desire to improve the lives of their neighbors. Their friendliness and optimism have positively impacted countless people both in and out of the college. Their leadership, dedication and generosity serve as an example to all, particularly young students enrolled at TRCC. Poplar Bluff and the entire southern Missouri region owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell for their significant contributions to higher education and their community.

Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Ben and Martha Bidewell on winning this prestigious award. I ask that you join me along with the people of southern Missouri to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bidewell on this wonderful achievement and to wish them a happy and productive future.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHERWOOD INN

#### HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the Sherwood Inn in Skaneateles, New York.

Founded by Isaac Sherwood in 1807 the Sherwood Inn has served as a fixture in the Central New York community for two centuries. Throughout its long history, the Sherwood Inn has seen many renovations and expansions and been known by many different names and owned by numerous people, but it has constantly been dedicated to serving travelers and diners in the area. During the influenza epidemic of 1918 the Sherwood Inn went above and beyond its call of public service by serving as a temporary hospital.

Owned by William Eberhardt since 1974, the Sherwood Inn is one of the oldest, continuously operating inns in New York State. It has served as a place for community activities, business meetings, family gatherings, and special events. Throughout its operation, the Sherwood Inn has employed hundreds of area citizens and has served as a crucial leader in the revival of the village of Skaneateles and the Finger Lakes region.

The Sherwood Inn has always strived to maintain the highest standards of public service, and I am proud to recognize them today. I congratulate the past and present employees of the Sherwood Inn on reaching this milestone, and I thank them for their two centuries of dedicated public service that has been such a positive influence on the community.

#### HONORING GERALDINE GENNET

#### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Ms. BERKLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Geraldine Gennet for her diligent service to the Office of General Counsel for the House of Representatives. Ms. Gennet joined the General Counsel's office 12 years ago, and served in the capacity of General Counsel for more than a decade.

Ms. Gennet worked tirelessly to carry out her office's mandate to provide legal assistance and representation without regard to political affiliation. The advice and guidance she has provided to Speaker PELOSI, as well as to former Speakers Gingrich and Hastert, was unfailingly rooted in sound legal judgment and an impartial reading of the law. In carrying on an important tradition of nonpartisanship, Ms. Gennet significantly advanced the long-term, institutional interests of the House. Specifically, her vigorous defense of the Constitutional Speech or Debate clause has preserved the rights of Members, committees, and staff in their official capacities.

Ms. Gennet's capable leadership of the General Counsel's office through an era marked by partisan conflict is a testament to her integrity and professionalism. I consider it an honor to have formed both a personal and

working relationship with Geraldine during my tenure in Congress. I wish her continued success, and once again thank her for her service to the House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR.  
WILLIAM A. WATSON, JR.

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor to the work and achievements of Rev. Dr. William A. Watson, Jr. A native of Portsmouth, Virginia, Reverend William Jr. is the fifth of seven children and the first male child born to Deacon William A. Watson, Sr., and Cornelia Watson.

Reverend William Jr. was educated in the Virginia public school system. He relocated to Hempstead, New York, and earned a vocational degree from Manpower Development Training School in New Hyde Park. Reverend William Jr. became a licensed minister in June 1978. He was ordained in July 1979 as an assistant to the late Rev. Joseph J. Howell. He became the interim Pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Westbury in April 1983. Following that, he became the first secretary of the Eastern Baptist Association's Board of Evangelism.

Reverend William Jr. served as chairman of the board of evangelism; vice-moderator of Nassau County; vice-moderator at large of the Eastern Baptist Association of New York, Inc. He was appointed Vice President of area 7 for the Empire Baptist Missionary Convention, Inc., of New York State. In addition, he is the chaplain for the incorporated village of Hempstead's police department and president of its board of directors.

Reverend William Jr. is a retired businessman and a 41-year resident of the incorporated village of Hempstead. He continues to be on the front line of the struggle for unity and empowerment for the church and his community.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Rev. Dr. William A. Watson, Jr., for his contributions to our community and for his years of service to New Yorkers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Rev. Dr. William A. Watson, Jr.

HONORING COACH GARY  
KORHONEN OF RICHARDS HIGH  
SCHOOL FOR HIS RECORD-  
BREAKING 301ST WIN IN ILLINOIS

### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Gary Korhonen of the Richards High School football team in Oak Lawn, Illinois, for his achievement as the all time winningest prep school coach in the state of Illinois. Breaking the record on September 28th, 2007, with his 301st win, Coach Korhonen has demonstrated a great commitment to his student-athletes. I am pleased to rise today to

recognize Coach Korhonen's unyielding dedication and honor this great milestone in his career.

Considered to be one of the best coaches in Illinois football history, Coach Korhonen's legacy reached a new level this fall when his Richards squad faced Evergreen Park High School. Their 44-0 victory gave Korhonen his record-breaking 301st win as an Illinois head football coach and propelled the Richards Bulldogs into their 23rd consecutive playoff berth. With this win, Coach Korhonen broke the record of 300 wins previously set by Providence Catholic Coach Matt Senffner.

Demonstrating a high commitment to the success of the individual members of his team, Coach Korhonen's understanding of what truly defines success doesn't include the number of games he's won as a coach. Korhonen considers his greatest accomplishment in life to be the fact that he has sent 274 kids to college on scholarships. Always believing in the potential of his team, Korhonen humbly puts the kids first, saying, "It's not about me, but about everyone else I'm working with."

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Coach Gary Korhonen for the positive role model that he is to the young men of Richards High School and for his continuing commitment to excellence for his players, both on and off the field. As the Representative of the 3rd District of Illinois, I am proud to say that we are home to the state's winningest coach, and I wish him and his team great success in the coming seasons.

### CONGRATULATING REYNA TREVINO

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Reyna Trevino of Little Elm High School in Little Elm, TX, on qualifying for induction into the Spring 2007 National Honor Roll.

The National Honor Roll offers several benefits that can contribute to the success of its student members. The National Honor Roll chooses students based upon their academic performance. Each student that qualifies for induction must have a B average or better, and show ambition in areas such as grade point average, interests, activities, and future goals.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Reyna Trevino for her remarkable dedication to education and exemplary learning. Her commitment to her studies, her school, and her future should serve as an inspiration to all. I am honored to represent her in the 26th District of Texas.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING BAI-  
LEY VAN ORDER FOR PLACING  
SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER  
UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Bailey Van Order competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Bailey Van Order showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Bailey Van Order has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Bailey Van Order was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Bailey Van Order always displayed sportsmanship on and off the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Bailey Van Order on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

### TRIBUTE TO JAIME Y LOS CHAMACOS

### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to boast about one of the great bands to come out of South Texas, Jaime y Los Chamacos. Led by renowned maestro of the accordion, Jaime de la Anda, the band's success can be directly attributed to 15 years of combined talent, and continues to live up to their stage name with youthful energy that appeals to audiences of all ages.

The distinct music of the Texas border—whether known as *norteño*, *tejano*, or *conjunto*—has grown together in the modern Mexican-American community. The genres emerged during the late 19th century in northern Mexico, when local bands blended traditional Mexican folk music with the accordion sounds and polka music brought by German immigrants. What emerged were the lively sounds that continue to be heard at any family gathering, beer hall, or fiesta.

Los Chamacos combine all these genres with a pop sensibility and a dynamic stage presence. Though proud of their Texas roots, Los Chamacos now boasts of their international appeal, having performed in venues all across the United States and Mexico. They have made numerous appearances on popular television shows and even had the honor of performing for President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Their accolades and awards also speak for themselves: numerous hits on the Billboard Records' Hot Latin Charts, 5 Grammy nominations, the Texas Talent Management Association Show Band of the Year, and the Tejano Music Awards Traditional Album of the Year.

Despite their success, the band has remained humble and appreciative of their loyal fans, having appeared in several public service announcements and numerous community events. More importantly, Los Chamacos and their music represent all the aspects that make the culture of South Texas so unique.

## RECOGNIZING PHILLIP EARLEY

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Phillip Earley, of Chillicothe, MO. Phillip is an active student at Chillicothe High School by participating in many extracurricular activities. During his time at school, he has received many outstanding athletic and academic achievements.

Phillip has been actively serving his student body and teammates by participating in C-Club and football. For his excellence in football, he was selected for the All District First Team Offense and the All Conference Second Team Offense and Defense. He also received the honor of being selected by the Missouri Sportswriters to the Class 3 All State Football Team.

Not only has Phillip been honored with many awards for his dedication and service to his football team, but also has been honored for his academic excellence. This includes receiving the academic letter twice at his school.

Also, I would like to recognize the coaches that have inspired Phillip to achieve his best in athletics and academics. These notable coaches are Phil Willard, Jeff Staton, and Dave Mapel.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Phillip Earley. His dedication and service to his school has been extremely important to the success of his team record and to his academic achievement. I commend his exemplary record for all of his athletic and academic honors, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

## RECOGNIZING THE 5TH GRADE STUDENTS OF PECAN CREEK ELEMENTARY

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior community service and dedication of the 5th grade students from Pecan Creek Elementary School in Denton, Texas. These students volunteered many hours to illustrate a children's book, *More Than Just a Mvule Tree*, which raised money to plant trees in Uganda.

The students' teacher, Ms. Natalie Mead, helped with the project, which sold 600 copies of the 24-page first edition book. The sales of those books, along with sponsorships, filled the village of Wonkonge in Uganda with 170 Mvule trees.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize these students and their teacher. The students of Pecan Creek Elementary School's 5th Grade class have shown commitment to their local and international community. I am honored to represent them in the 26th District of Texas.

## A PROCLAMATION HONORING CASEY CLIFF FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Casey Cliff competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and Whereas, Casey Cliff showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and Whereas, Casey Cliff has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and Whereas, Casey Cliff was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Casey Cliff always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Casey Cliff on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

## IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER PAMELA MELROY

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and Mr. KUH of New York to recognize Pamela Melroy; Commander of the Space Shuttle *Discovery* Mission STS-120.

Ms. Melroy has become just the second female shuttle commander in NASA's history. Despite NASA being comprised of approximately 19 percent women, there are currently no other female pilot-astronauts within the agency, which makes it probable that Commander Melroy may also be the last woman to command a space shuttle before the program ends in 2010.

As a member of a military family, Melroy spent her childhood living in many towns, but considers Rochester, NY, her hometown. She graduated from Bishop Kearney High School in Rochester and earned her bachelor's degree in physics and astronomy from Wellesley College. Melroy continued her education and received her masters of science degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Commander Melroy served in the United States Air Force from 1983 until 2007. During her career in the Air Force, she flew combat missions in Iraq, and eventually graduated from the Air Force's exclusive test-pilot school. Over the span of her 24-year career, she logged 5,000 hours of flight time in 45 different aircrafts.

Pamela Melroy began her astronaut career in 1994 when she was selected as a candidate by NASA. Prior to her becoming Commander of *Discovery*, Melroy worked on a number of projects and took on a number of roles within NASA. She served on the Columbia Reconstruction Team, as deputy project manager for a crew survival investigation team, and as a pilot on two space shuttle missions.

Pamela Melroy became the second female space shuttle commander on October 23, 2007 when mission STS-120 launched. This delivered the Harmony module to the International Space Station in order to prepare the station for future missions. Melroy follows in the footsteps of fellow Upstate New York native Eileen Collins, who was the first female space shuttle commander.

Throughout her career Commander Melroy has served as a valuable co-worker and leader and is highly respected by those who work with her. Her contributions to her country as a member of the Air Force and as an astronaut are invaluable. Inspired by Apollo missions when she was younger, Melroy herself serves as an inspiration by showing how far women have come in the space program.

Representative KUH and I thank Pamela Melroy for her dedication and service to her country as a member of the Air Force and as an astronaut and congratulate her on a successful career thus far. She has and will continue to be a true leader and an excellent role model for young people today.

## A TRIBUTE TO MRS. MAGGIE BAKER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay to Mrs. Maggie Baker.

Mrs. Baker was born in Alabama and migrated to Brooklyn, NY, where she married Jessie Baker, Sr. She and her husband of 45 years are the proud parents of 5 sons, 1 daughter, and 20 grandchildren.

Mrs. Baker is most recognized for her years of service with the board of education until 2004. A dedicated member of New Canaan Baptist Church, Mrs. Baker has served as president of the usher board and as a Sunday school teacher for more than 31 years. Although she is actively involved in other community organizations, Mrs. Baker enjoys spending quality time with her family and traveling.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of Mrs. Maggie Baker for her commitment to the Brooklyn community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a great individual of high morals, ethics, and integrity.

## CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA PARISH IN OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish as they celebrate 50 years of community, faith, and service. Throughout their history, the parishioners of St. Catherine's have served commendably as a pillar of the Oak Lawn community, and I am pleased to honor their 50th anniversary.



The story of St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish began in 1957, when the Roman Catholic population of the Ranch Manor District of Oak Lawn began looking for a new place to worship. They petitioned the Archdiocese of Chicago to establish a new church in their area, and on August 21, 1957, St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish was canonically erected.

While men in the parish built a chapel and an office, services were temporarily held at Brother Rice High School. Through hard work and dedication throughout the years, the parish has expanded to accommodate the large increase of worshippers. When the parish was dedicated on November 23, 1958, the parish facilities consisted of the church and an eight-room school for 367 families. Today, there are 12 additional classrooms, a convent, and a rectory to serve the 2200 families who worship there.

From their first pastor, Reverend John M. Kane, to their current pastor, Father Patrick Henry, the parishioners of St. Catherine's have enriched the lives of their fellow citizens by providing community outreach, a strong grade school, and an unwavering commitment to their faith. The members of St. Catherine's continue to develop their community, building gyms, kitchens, and meeting rooms to provide a safe environment for area children and a focal point for their community.

I rise today, Madam Speaker, to commend the hard work, dedication, and faith that have characterized the first 50 years of St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Parish. I am proud to have in the Third District such a strong example of the great contributions that Catholic parishes and schools make to this country. My prayers and best wishes are with the parishioners of St. Catherine's as they celebrate their 50th anniversary.

#### RECOGNIZING CLINT MACOUBRIE

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the outstanding achievement of Clint Macoubrie, and all of his numerous athletic and academic honors at Chillicothe High School in Chillicothe, MO.

Clint is actively involved in his school by participating in many extracurricular activities. He has played golf, basketball and football all throughout his sophomore, junior, and senior year, and has received many awards and honors for his exemplary skills and character. He has been given the KWK Outstanding Athletic Achievement Award and has also been named to the KMZU Dream Team with the title of Class 3/4 Football Defensive Player of the Year. Clint also holds the school record for the most rushing touchdowns at Chillicothe High School.

Clint is as dedicated to his athletics as he is to his academics. He has excelled in his studies by receiving the Top 10% of Class Academic Excellence Award, the George Washington Carver Award for Excellent Academic Achievement, and the President's Education Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence. Not only is he an example and leader on the field, but also in the classroom.

Also, I want to recognize the great leadership of Clint's exemplary coaches Phil Willard, Jeff Staton, and Dave Mapel who took great lengths in assuring his outstanding athletic and academic performances.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the achievement of Clint Macoubrie for all his accomplishments in athletic and academic excellence. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING CARNEGIE HALL'S CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a very special occasion that will take place in New York's 14th Congressional District this week. Eight New York City high schools, including the Life Sciences Secondary School and Company High School for Theatre Art, will participate in a musical and cultural exchange event at New York City's world-renowned Carnegie Hall on December 5, 2007.

Carnegie Hall's cultural exchange program will bring together a select group of eight classrooms in New York City and an equal number in Istanbul, Turkey. Students in both countries have worked in their respective classrooms for the past ten weeks to learn about each other's nation and culture. On Wednesday, students and teachers will meet face to face via teleconferencing technology to share a real-time cultural exchange using music as the common language. American and Turkish teachers and students in the program will continue to communicate with one another on a dedicated internet space for the duration of the school year. Carnegie Hall has developed this unique exchange program in partnership with the U.S. Department of State, and I am pleased that this public-private partnership will produce a meaningful, enriching and lasting experience for students in New York City and Istanbul.

Music is a universal language through which improved understanding among our Nation's respective citizenry can be found. I commend Carnegie Hall, the U.S. Department of State, and the private sector sponsors of this program. Most importantly, I congratulate the young men and women participating in this program and add my encouragement for their continued pursuit of improved cultural understanding through music and the arts.

#### AN EXTRAORDINARY CAREER, AN EXTRAORDINARY CITIZEN

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I stand today to recognize the career and contributions of a longtime friend and newspaperman in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District, John Rouse, the editor of the Bowie Blade News.

For 36 years, the citizens of the City of Bowie, Prince George's County, and the State

of Maryland have benefited from John's skill as an editor, insight as a writer, and dedication to the community that he has served for so long.

Many in Bowie recognize John by his long association with the Editor's View column he writes for the paper. Through this column and other writings, John has earned distinction for his thoughtful, objective style of journalism that has helped drive the Bowie Blade-News to significant acclaim.

After serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam era, John joined the Bowie News as editor in 1971 and became the editor and general manager of the new Bowie-Blade News in 1978 when the Bowie News merged with the Bowie Blade.

Madam Speaker, under John's leadership, the Bowie-Blade News has earned numerous recognitions, among them the Newspaper of the Year award in 1999 from the SEQ Chapter of the Maryland-Delaware-District of Columbia Press Association. The paper has also won the Best in Show award for several investigative pieces over the years as well as awards for newspaper design.

John has earned several accolades of his own for his individual achievements in the news industry, including first place awards for his Editor's View column. He has been a longtime member of the Society of Professional Journalists (Sigma Delta Chi). John is also a lifetime member of both the Disabled American Veterans and the American Legion.

During John's 36 years in Bowie, he has remained resolute in his commitment to truth and fairness as guiding journalistic principles. John has served as an effective watchdog of the public interest in his community, and for that alone, he should be lauded.

Among John's most admirable qualities is his keen sense of humor. Although sometimes the target of that humor, I recognize that John is an equal opportunity satirist who adeptly uses the power of the writer's pen to make sound and insightful observations. And while John and I have sometimes fallen on different sides of a debate, we have grown to be friends over the years, and hold each other in high mutual respect and esteem.

After all, Madam Speaker, we have both witnessed the City of Bowie's evolution into the vibrant and diverse community that John is proud to call home, and I am proud to represent in Congress. All the while, John has maintained an innate ability to keep his finger firmly pressed on the pulse of the community, knowing better than most what makes Bowie such a great place to work and live.

As a resident of Bowie, John has served with countless community organizations and played a pivotal role in the formation of the Bowie YMCA. For his work in the community, John has been honored by a number of civic groups, including the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee of Bowie, the Bowie Civic Affairs Committee, and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, John's career is significant not only in years and accomplishments, but also for the impact he has had in the City of Bowie. For three and a half decades, he has dedicated himself to working for the interests of his fellow Bowie residents and the good of the community. In recognition of his retirement as editor of the Bowie Blade-News and a public life filled with distinction, I ask my colleagues to join with me in offering him our



congratulations and wishing him the very best in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE DENTON  
COUNTY CORRECTIONAL HEALTH  
TEAM

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate four members of the Denton County Correctional Health Team for being accredited "Certified Correctional Health Providers" by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. The four health care providers are Medical Lt. John Kissinger, Medical Sgt. Shannon Sprabary, Standards and Quality Assurance Provider Dr. Randall Kessler, and Juvenile Health Supervisor Caren Curtis.

The National Commission on Correctional Health Care certification is the highest level of certification for correctional health providers. This is a great honor as there are only 2,000 certified health care providers in all of the correctional facilities in the United States. The Health Department runs a full medical facility in the Denton County facility, and provides emergency, routine and chronic care for over 1,000 inmates.

The individual and team accomplishments of these members contribute greatly to the safety and security of all inmates of the facility. I am very proud of their dedication to their community and country. It is my honor to represent these men and women, and I wish them continued successes in the future. Their persistence and commitment should serve as an inspiration to us all.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ALISHA HASTILOW FOR PLACING  
SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER  
UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Alisha Hastilow competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Alisha Hastilow showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Alisha Hastilow has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Alisha Hastilow was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Alisha Hastilow always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Alisha Hastilow on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM TURNER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the work and achievements of William Turner. William is the second child born to the union of William and Mary Turner of Tampa, Florida. William spent his childhood years in Tampa and later migrated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with his uncle Samuel Turner. He left Pennsylvania for New York where he studied at Pace University, Long Island University, Columbia University, New York University, Hofstra University and Brooklyn College.

William has been an entrepreneur in the Bedford-Stuyvesant Community for more than 45 years, primarily as President of Cross Boro Realty. He is also a licensed insurance broker, certified general appraiser and tax consultant. He has served on the Bedford-Stuyvesant Real Estate Board as president, chairman, vice-president, and secretary. He has also served as president of the Real Estate Non-Profit Housing Company, chairman of the Legal Defense Fund, chairman of the Journal Committee and elected to the honorary position of ambassador at large.

William has initiated and coordinated several programs, among them: The development of a strong educational program for members of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Real Estate Board which allows them to survive one of the worst housing crises in our Nation's history; assisted board members in winning 7 of 9 Housing and Urban Development area managers' contracts, and; presented testimony on redlining in the Bedford-Stuyvesant area to a legislative panel chaired by the Honorable Shirley Chisholm.

William is married to his lovely wife, Melanie Turner. He is the proud father of 3 daughters, Sheila, Joyce, and Karen; three granddaughters, Fallon, Melanie, Jazmine; and 1 grandson, Ronald Cartledge III.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the contributions of William Turner. He has been a pillar of the Bedford-Stuyvesant business community for years.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to William Turner.

COMMENDING Q'S CREW FOR ITS  
COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE  
AND FAMILIES AFFECTED BY  
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the team members of Q's Crew, which was recently honored by the Greater North Jersey Chapter of the National MS Society for raising the most money as a rookie team during the annual MS walk this past April. They also received the Mission Possible Award for raising more than \$20,000 in that endeavor.

Q's Crew gets its name from Gloria Marquis, who succumbed to MS just prior to the walk. Her son, Joe, and his then-fiancée, now-

wife, Tatiana, jointly captained this team. Gloria lived with MS for many years. And, her family lived through it with her with courage and grace and dignity. In the end, Gloria regrettably was unable to make it to Joe and Tatiana's wedding in August; but her spirit was ever-present and she will surely be watching over this young couple's life together.

Tatiana also serves as my district director and I know firsthand of her extraordinary sense of public service. The energy and determination that Tatiana and Joe have demonstrated in raising funds for and awareness of multiple sclerosis and the example they have provided for other families living with MS are a tremendous contribution to the community in which they have grown up and now live as husband and wife.

I was proud to join Tatiana, Joe, and the rest of Q's Crew at the MS walk in April. And, I continue to be proud of all that they do to fight MS.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY  
OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE  
HENRY HYDE OF ILLINOIS

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2007*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my deepest condolences on the loss of Congressman Henry Hyde. It is a great honor to have known him and served with Henry, a dedicated public servant whose devotion to his constituency, values, and country was rivaled by few.

Though I only shared a single term in the House of Representatives with Congressman Hyde, I felt privileged to serve with him in the Illinois congressional delegation. A man well-known for his eloquent speeches, Henry Hyde was a legend throughout Illinois and the entire country.

Throughout his 32-year tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Hyde proved to be an intellectual powerhouse, commanding respect for the strong arguments and stimulating debate that he brought to the House. A true statesman, Henry was known for his ability to bring opposing sides of a debate together to find a consensus for the good of the country.

In the House, Congressman Hyde was influential on matters of international importance, having chaired both the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on International Relations. I have particularly great respect for his eloquent voice on American foreign policy during the Cold War.

For his public service and great contributions to America throughout his career, not the least of which was his brave service in the Navy during World War II, Congressman Hyde was recently recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Awarded by the President and given only to those individuals who have made an especially meritorious contribution to the security or national interests of the United States, this is the Nation's highest civilian honor.

A man who always stayed true to his faith, Henry Hyde was unwavering in defending his values and beliefs with every word he spoke.

In the end, I will always admire Henry for his basic belief that the law exists to protect the weak from the strong, and his willingness to fight for this principle.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today not only to honor Henry Hyde, a great man, but to recognize the impact he has made on our country. America no doubt will feel the loss of this man who so deeply committed himself to his country. I count myself lucky that I had the opportunity to serve with him. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife and family.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER SPRINGFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce as it celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Since its inception in 1957, the chamber has continued to play a key role in promoting economic prosperity in the greater Springfield region. Currently, the organization is composed of 280 businesses that are involved in a variety of local ventures, ranging from restaurants to government contracting. Drawing from a wealth of business knowledge and experience, member companies work in concert with local government officials and residents on behalf of the Springfield community.

The greater Springfield region is home to a vibrant economy where small and large businesses are forced to contend with a number of challenging economic issues. Recognizing these challenges, the chamber remains committed to aiding business as they navigate this dynamic economic landscape. President Stubbs has led a recent initiative to analyze the Base Realignment and Closure, BRAC, program and to assess its potential impact on local businesses. Another recent chamber study has focused on helping small businesses cope with the threat of pandemic flu.

Strong leadership and solid organization have contributed to the chamber's record of success. Under the guidance of current chamber president Vincent Stubbs and executive director Nancy-jo Manney, chamber membership and activities have continued to expand. Chamber executives and officers work alongside the organization's executive advisory council and the chamber board to identify areas of interest and chart the course of economic progress.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce on 50 years of success. They have become a strong organization committed to serving the interests of their members and their community. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the chamber members' past accomplishments and in wishing them the best of luck in the many years to come.

CONGRATULATING MR. RICE M. TILLEY, JR.

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Rice M. Tilley, Jr., practicing attorney with Haynes and Boone, LLP, as the recipient of the 2007 "Distinguished Citizens Award" from the Longhorn Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Tilley practices law in the Northern District Court of Texas, as well as the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit. He has over 40 years of experience in the fields of taxation, estate planning, and business formation, among others.

Mr. Tilley is very active in his community and holds positions on the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Fort Worth, and The University of North Texas' Board of Regents, as well as other organizations.

The leadership skills Mr. Tilley possesses are evident through not only his profession, but his charitable and community work as well.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Rice M. Tilley, Jr., on receiving this award, and I praise his dedication, commitment, and desire to help his community and country. I am honored to represent him in the 26th District of Texas.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING KARISSA HASTILOW FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Karissa Hastilow always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Karissa Hastilow on placing second in the Manchester Umbr International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

#### A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND RUSH GENEVA RICHBURG

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brooklyn resident, Rev. Rush

Geneva Richburg. Reverend Richburg was born and raised in Summerton, SC, and is the 15th of 21 children. Her parents are the late Reverend Gussie Pearson and Mrs. Geneva Pearson.

Reverend Richburg, a member of the New Canaan Baptist for 18 years, was called to be an evangelist in 1990 and ordained as a reverend in 2004. She has served as president of the New Canaan's Christian Women's Fellowship; vice president of the Pastor's Aide Club Ministry; chaplain of the Sunday school department; and as a member of the block association.

Reverend Richburg was married to Frank Richburg, Sr., for 32 years prior to his death. Of that union, four children were born: Frank, Jr., Jeremiah, Theresa, and Harry. She also has 14 grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I commend Rev. Rush Geneva Richburg for her contributions to her church and her community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this wonderful woman.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF LATE CONGRESSMAN AUGUSTUS FREEMAN "GUS" HAWKINS

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to recognize the passing of our former colleague and my fellow Angeleno, Augustus Freeman Hawkins.

I had the privilege of meeting Congressman Hawkins on several occasions during the years he served with my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal, and I was struck by his warmth, intelligence, courage, and his dedication to serving the people of his Los Angeles congressional district.

Known affectionately as "Gus" to his colleagues and friends, Congressman Hawkins served his Los Angeles-area community, the State of California and the Nation with distinction. Dedicating his life to public service, Congressman Hawkins served for 27 years in the California Assembly and 28 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

His entry into Congress in 1962 could not have come at a more auspicious time. With the Civil Rights Movement already coming to the forefront of our Nation's consciousness, Congressman Hawkins became a powerful advocate for civil rights for all Americans. As the first African-American from the western United States to serve in the House of Representatives, he keenly understood the importance of the minority voice in American politics, and he worked to magnify this voice by becoming a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus. The CBC's current success can be traced back to Congressman Hawkins' vision and commitment to the organization in its formative years.

His achievements during his nearly three-decade tenure as a legislator are too numerous to recount. He was chairman of the powerful House Education and Labor Committee and the House Administration Committee, and he used his role as chairman to champion critical civil rights measures that expanded opportunities for millions of Americans.

Most notably, he sponsored a section of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 that established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The EEOC has been a critical tool in efforts to enforce laws that prohibit discrimination based on race, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability.

Reacting to rising inflation and unemployment in the 1970s, Congressman Hawkins introduced, along with Senator Hubert Humphrey, the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act, better known as the Humphrey-Hawkins Act of 1978. This measure was signed into law by President Carter and proved to be a blueprint for debates on how Government should interact with private enterprise to bring about national growth and fiscal responsibility. And, true to his nature as a defender of civil rights, the Humphrey-Hawkins Act specifically prohibited discrimination based on race, religion, age, gender, or national origin.

On the home front, Congressman Hawkins served his district during a tumultuous time in Los Angeles' history. Gus had been in Congress only 3 years when the 1965 Watts riots occurred, ultimately claiming the lives of dozens of his constituents. He decried the abusive actions of the police, and he redoubled his efforts to secure funds to fight poverty in his district and underserved minority communities across the Nation.

Congressman Hawkins' forceful defense of Americans held back by discrimination and poverty made him both an effective advocate and a devoted mentor to young minority lawmakers. Indeed, many of my colleagues in the House have been touched and inspired by Gus Hawkins' advice and mentorship. I know that my father, who was his counterpart in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, valued him as an ally and deeply respected and admired his leadership role as a civil rights advocate and promoter of equal opportunity for all.

Congressman Gus Hawkins will be remembered as an outstanding legislator, a trailblazer, as a trusted mentor, and as a friend. As a colleague, he will be remembered for the hard work, dedication, and dignity he always brought to his life, his work in public service, and to this people's House of Representatives.

I extend my condolences to his family and to the many people whose lives he touched.

#### CELEBRATING JAMAICA THROUGH THE LIFE AND TIMES OF NATIVE SON HERB MCKENLEY

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute one of Jamaica's favorite sons, Herb McKenley—a world-class track star whose awe-inspiring athletic feats filled the streets of Jamaica with pride. Noted as one of the island's greatest athletes ever, McKenley brought home an Olympic gold medal in 1952 as part of the country's relay team. A man of limitless determination and impressive humility—once claiming that his running philosophy was to simply “run as fast as I can, as long as I can”—McKenley set a slew of world records and earned myriad accolades to his name. His recent passing marks the culmination

of a life spent sprinting towards goal after goal, and reaching every one of them.

New York fans were treated to the sight of the 6-foot-1 dynamo whizzing down the indoor tracks at the old Madison Square Garden for the Millrose Games. He set the then-world record for a 440-yard sprint in 1947, finishing it in 46.3 seconds at a time when tracks were clay or dirt—not the artificial surfaces of today. His second world record was set a year later, when he ran 440 yards in 45.9 seconds. He nabbed a Silver Medal in the 1948 London Olympics and two more in the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki, missing the gold in all three to heartbreaking, photo finishes. The powerfully built man with an 8-foot stride is forever memorialized in Jamaica by the Herb McKenley Crescent, and not long before his passing, he was awarded its third highest honor, the Order of Merit.

His life's achievements read as one amorous letter to his native Jamaica. Born in the city of Clarendon on July 10, 1922, he sometimes skipped the bus after discovering that running got him places faster. One of those places was to college, when he became the first Jamaican sprinter to receive a college scholarship in the United States for the University of Illinois. After racking up his world-renowned honors, he coached Jamaica's national team for 20 years, between 1954 and 1973, and served as president of Jamaica's Amateur Athletic Association for 12. A celebration of his life is, ultimately, a celebration of Jamaica, and the permanent stamp it has left on the cultural, athletic, and historic narrative of the world.

It is in the spirit of great mourning but also of great pride that we commemorate his legacy. He has forever etched his story into the Jamaican consciousness, impressing upon us New York track fans the strength in being unapologetically persistent and passionate.

#### HONORING TIM MADDEN

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the achievements of Tim Madden and to commend him for his service to the Eastern Madera community. On Friday, November 30, 2007 the Oakhurst Area Chamber of Commerce recognized Mr. Madden for his continued dedication to not only its chamber, but to the North Fork Chamber of Commerce and Eastern Madera County.

Tim Madden is a 17-year resident of Eastern Madera County, his continued commitment to his community is evident by his service in a multitude of leadership positions throughout the area. Within the Oakhurst Area Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Madden's positions include past president, 2007; president 2006; president elect 2005; and member of the board of directors 2004. During his service with the chamber, the efforts of Mr. Madden enabled the chamber to authorize the inaugural trade mission to China, regain fiscal solvency, create a county-wide promotion system, promote local commerce and further downtown development and maintenance of the Oakhurst Business District.

Tim Madden also served as president of the North Fork Chamber of Commerce from 1998

to 2000, and as a member of the board of directors for 6 years. The list of community positions and appointments held by Mr. Madden continues, as does the esteem and gratitude of Eastern Madera County. Concerning the relationship Mr. Madden shares with his community, he remarked, “Our connection to each other extends far beyond our business relationships. We are much more like a very large extended family.”

Madam Speaker, I stand today to honor Tim Madden and the respect his community has shown for his dedicated service. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Madden many years of continued success.

#### A PROCLAMATION HONORING MICHELLE BROWN FOR PLACING SECOND IN THE MANCHESTER UMBRO INTERNATIONAL CUP

#### HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Michelle Brown competed in England's largest youth soccer tournament; and

Whereas, Michelle Brown showed hard work and dedication to the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Michelle Brown has broadened her abilities and skills in the sport of soccer; and

Whereas, Michelle Brown was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Michelle Brown always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Michelle Brown on placing second in the Manchester Umbro International Cup. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated.

#### A TRIBUTE TO PERRY PETTUS

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madame Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Perry Pettus. He was elected in March of 2002 to the Village of Hempstead Board of Trustees. Mr. Pettus represents residents of the incorporated village.

Mr. Pettus immediately began exercising his leadership as he took on Hempstead landlords over poor conditions in apartment buildings. He utilized his negotiating skills to bring the two sides together to help resolve tenant issues. He has effectively used the media to bring issues to light, not only for exposure but also for problem solving.

As a successful local businessman, Mr. Pettus has brought effective business skills to his position. He has already built business/government partnerships which have benefited the community.

Mr. Pettus resurrected legislation requiring the village to contract a portion of its business with minority contractors and continues to fight for its passage. He has gotten legislation

passed that would lower speed limits in school zones, and proposed legislation to beautify the business district by removing unsightly security gates. Campaigning on quality of life issues, Mr. Pettus has worked to ensure that all of the residents of Hempstead can enjoy the quality of life they deserve.

Perry Pettus strongly believes in community policing and that an effective police force is there to serve and protect all of the village's residents. He recently provided scholarships to individuals from the community who were interested in taking the NCPD test. His efforts will help give the Hempstead Village Police Department a list of community-based candidates.

Perry Pettus and his wife Kennetha have five children.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to recognize the impressive achievement of Perry Pettus. He has received numerous awards and citations from organizations like the Hempstead NAACP, Hofstra University, 100 Black Men, the Central Nassau Club, the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, and the Chamber of Commerce, Operation Get Ahead, and the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding citizen and all the great things he stands for.

#### RECOGNIZING FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF JULIA E. HUDSON

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask the House to recognize Julia Hudson, who served as my chief of staff for 8 years and has been a member of my staff throughout most of my own service in the Congress. On September 5, 2007, Julia left the House of Representatives to pursue a career in public relations, the field for which she prepared herself in graduate school. The loss to my office, to me personally, and to the people of the District of Columbia is immense. However, Julia has spent nearly her entire professional life in my office serving the people of this city with excellence and special dedication to her job and to me in pursuit of my work in the House. It is understandable that she would want to pursue her chosen profession.

Julia's career here in the House of Representatives demonstrates the opportunities for upward mobility that are available based on hard work and proven capability. Starting as a staff assistant, an entry level job, she was promoted to legislative correspondent and to a sub-committee staff position before leaving for a short time to work in the Clinton administration in 1999. Because of her great skill, initiative and hard work, I later asked her to return, and she continued to work her way up to become my chief of staff when political guru Donna Brazile resigned after 10 years with me to spearhead the Gore-Lieberman 2000 presidential bid.

In addition to her non-stop work leading "Team Norton," as Julia christened our staff, Julia, a native Washingtonian, has always performed outside public service here in her hometown. She is a member of the Links, In-

corporated and serves as the chair of the Links' High Expectations Mentoring Program. The Links is an organization of accomplished, dedicated women who are active in their community here and nationwide. The Links members are activists, volunteers, mentors, role models and newsmakers who make the name "Links" mean not only a chain of friendship, but also of purposeful service. Over the years, I have watched Julia serve as a mentor and role model for the aspiring professionals who interned in our office. She set the perfect example for them to strive for the best and to take every opportunity from their internship to learn all that they could.

Julia's cordial relations with others in the Congress was an added asset to us in our work. She was always as agreeable and collegial as she was efficient and able. She is remembered for her friendships and for her professionalism, dedication, generosity, patience and her willingness to always "go that extra mile" in performing her chief of staff duties. She set a gold standard for staff. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Julia Hudson for outstanding service to the House of Representatives and to the residents of the District of Columbia. Julia will remain a dear friend to us all and, of course, a life member of Team Norton.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF SUE LARRIMORE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today and recognize the retirement of Sue Larrimore, a great educator.

For three decades, Sue has dedicated her work toward helping students realize their full potential. Teaching elementary, middle, and junior high school students, she has touched the lives of countless individuals through different parts of the country. These students are our Nation's future, and I am confident that her influence upon their lives will steer them toward working toward the betterment of society.

Sue has worked tirelessly as an educator for over 25 years in my district in northwest Florida, and has served as the principal of Destin Elementary School for the last 5 years. During those 5 years, Destin Elementary received an "A" grade every year for providing an exceptional educational experience. With an undergraduate degree in early childhood education and a master's degree in educational leadership, there is no question that Sue knew what she wanted to do early on in her life, and her successes both at Destin Elementary as well as all the other schools at which she served are a testament to her achieving that goal.

Madam Speaker, Sue's leadership and effectiveness will be missed by past and current students as well as all others that work with her in the educational community. She is a model citizen who set out and achieved the goal of making our Nation and the world a better place, and I know many will look to her as a great educator for a long time to come.

#### REMEMBERING COACH ED KRIWIEL

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on Monday, Kansas lost a coaching legend. Ed Kriwiel, who passed away in his sleep at the age of 81, coached for more than 50 years in the Wichita area football city league. Mr. Kriwiel was a phenomenal coach. During his head football coaching years he hailed 297 wins, 9 State titles and 8 city league championships. In addition, Mr. Kriwiel spent 2 years coaching at Wichita State University in the late 60s, including 1 year as head coach. He continued coaching high school golf until his passing.

Not only was he a superb athlete and coach, he was a father of nine children and a husband to his wife Mary of 53 years.

Mr. Kriwiel has influenced countless lives through the years—from players to coaches to his ever-growing fan base. I am thankful for all the joy and memories he brought into our lives. He will be greatly missed.

To the Kriwiel family: Thank you for sharing your husband and father with Kansans for so many years. May God bless you. My thoughts and prayers go out to you during this time.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PRO IP ACT OF 2007

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property ("PRO IP") Act of 2007, legislation that highlights the importance of intellectual property enforcement by making several changes to substantive civil and criminal laws; providing for more efficient and directed coordination efforts among the various agencies; and allocating more resources towards enforcement efforts. I am joined by Representatives BERMAN, SMITH, SCHIFF, FEENEY, ISSA, CHABOT, COHEN, KELLER, JACKSON-LEE and GOODLATTE.

The objectives and content of this legislation are supported by a broad range of interests. Many unions and guilds, such as the Teamsters, Directors Guild of America, SEIU, AFTRA, Unite Here, AFM, Laborers, OPEN, IATSE, and others, have sent letters in support of comprehensive IP enforcement legislation, in general, and more specifically, of many of the provisions contained in this bill. On the industry side, the Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy, which represents 500 companies and trade associations, from the Motor Equipment Manufacturing Association and PHARMA to NBC Universal and Cleveland Golf, issued a June 2007 set of legislative objectives that are largely captured in this bill.

This legislation is an important and necessary step in the fight to maintain our competitive edge in a global marketplace. By providing additional resources for enforcement of intellectual property, we ensure that innovation and creativity will continue to prosper in our society.

The need for this legislation is clear. Counterfeiting and piracy costs the global economy between \$500 and \$600 billion a year in lost sales. That's around 5 to 7 percent of global trade. It costs the United States between \$200 and \$250 billion a year in lost sales, including 750,000 jobs.

And it's not just about money. Counterfeiting and piracy can place human lives at risk. As counterfeiting proliferates in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, aircraft, and auto parts, the harm can be a matter of life and death. For example, the World Health Organization estimates that the prevalence of counterfeit pharmaceuticals ranges from less than 1 percent in developed countries to over 30 percent in developing countries, and over 50 percent of counterfeit pharmaceuticals are obtained from illicit websites. The Center for Medicine in the Public Interest estimates that counterfeit drug commerce will grow 13 percent annually through 2010, nearly twice the rate of legitimate pharmaceuticals. As we read stories about people being harmed by counterfeit toothpaste, toys, or drugs, we see the real effects of these practices on American lives.

This legislation attempts to address these intellectual property offenses in a broad and encompassing manner. It does not take only one approach toward bolstering our intellectual property laws but rather tackles the challenges in several ways. First, Titles I and II strengthen the substantive civil and criminal laws relating to copyright and trademark infringement. For example, the legislation address several issues related to registration of a copyright and the manner in which damages are calculated for certain claims of infringement, as well as tackling some of the problems that occur at our Nation's borders and harmonizing the various forfeiture laws for the different intellectual property offenses.

Second, Title III of the legislation establishes the Office of the United States Intellectual Property Enforcement Representative, USIPER, in the Executive Office of the President, to handle nationwide and international coordination of intellectual property enforcement efforts. This legislation provides that the USIPER, together with an interagency Intellectual Property Advisory Committee, composed of every federal agency with expertise in either Intellectual Property protection or enforcement, will generate a joint strategic plan to marshal the disparate resources and expertise of United States enforcement efforts and coordinate and consolidate these efforts.

Third, Title IV provides for the appointment of intellectual property attachés to work with foreign countries in their efforts to combat counterfeiting and piracy. The attachés will be responsible for coordinating training and technical assistance programs within the host country.

Finally, Title V of the legislation raises the level of intellectual property enforcement coordination within the Department of Justice by placing the functions of the existing Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section related to enforcement of intellectual property laws and trade secrets under the auspices of a new Intellectual Property Division, and also transfers the International Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinators to this new Division. This section of the bill also provides for additional law enforcement resources, including local law enforcement grants and additional CHIPS and dedicated FBI personnel, and re-

quires DOJ to provide an annual report of its efforts in intellectual property enforcement. Finally, the bill promotes transparency in the prosecutorial process by directing the DOJ to review and consider modifying their standards for accepting or declining prosecution of the intellectual property laws, including procedures for advising complainants and victims of intellectual property crimes.

If the United States is to maintain its position in the increasingly competitive global economy, we must fulfill our obligation to American intellectual property rights holders and ensure that their inventions, creations, writings, and discoveries are not stolen without effective recourse. This comprehensive piece of legislation goes a long way toward protecting that creativity and ingenuity that is vital to the U.S. economy.

#### A TRIBUTE TO MARTY MARKOWITZ

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brooklyn Borough Hall President Marty Markowitz. No one works harder for the 2.5 million plus residents of Brooklyn than Marty. He has been the chief advocate for the Borough's economic, social, and cultural interests while initiating and promoting efforts to improve the quality of life for Brooklynites.

Marty was born and raised in Crown Heights, graduating from Wingate High School in 1962. He received his B.A. in political science after attending night school at Brooklyn College from 1962 to 1970.

Marty began his career in public service in 1971, at the age of 26, by organizing the Flatbush Tenants Council, which grew into Brooklyn Housing and Family Services, the largest tenants' advocacy organization in New York State. He is also widely known for creating 2 of New York City's largest and longest-running free concert series: the Seaside Summer Concert Series in Coney Island, and the Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series also in Flatbush.

Marty was elected to the New York State Senate in 1979, where he served 11 consecutive terms representing Central Brooklyn. However, he always dreamed of serving all of Brooklyn, a goal he achieved as the first Borough President elected in the new millennium. He was elected to a second term in 2005.

Marty set an ambitious agenda as Borough President. Marty's agenda focused on the core issues of housing, neighborhood preservation, and community his more than three decades in public service.

Marty saw a chance to fulfill his campaign promise of returning a national sports team to Brooklyn for the first time since the Dodgers left for Los Angeles in 1957 when the New Jersey Nets were put up for sale in 2002. He has actively supported moving the team from New Jersey to a new downtown arena at Atlantic Yards. The team hopes to play its first game in Brooklyn in the fall of 2009.

Marty has also assisted in creating jobs for Brooklynites. He oversaw a historic community benefits agreement for Atlantic Yards, guaran-

teeing that the majority of the new jobs generated by the project would go to those Brooklynites who needed them most, including residents of nearby public housing. He has been a tireless advocate for bringing the cruise-ship industry to Brooklyn, and in April 2006 the Queen Mary II will begin docking in Red Hook, followed by the Crown Princess in June, creating new jobs and introducing thousands of visitors to this great borough.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of our Borough President Marty Markowitz for his commitment to the residents of Brooklyn, New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this business savvy man who loves Brooklyn so very much.

#### UNETHICAL IMPRISONMENT OF PABLO PACHECO AVILA

#### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the continued injustice facing a Cuban prisoner of conscience, Pablo Pacheco Avila. In March of 2003, Cuban authorities led a crackdown on dissident movements. One of their victims was independent political journalist, Pablo Pacheco. Under Law 88, persons found guilty of destabilizing the Cuban regime by supporting the policy of the United States can be sentenced to many years in prison. Pablo Pacheco was sentenced to 20 years in prison under Cuban Law 88. By simply expressing political opinions and exercising the right to free speech, Pablo Pacheco and over 70 other people were arrested.

Pablo Pacheco began his prison sentence in Prison de Aguiç in Colon, but has since been transferred several times. During this time, the prisoner's health has been declining, as Pablo suffers from renal ectopia of his right kidney. In a country renowned for its medical care, it appears difficult for Pablo to receive the attention he needs. He continues to suffer from severe pain. His medical conditions have been exacerbated by the harassment he has experienced in the Cuban prison system. While in prison, Pablo Pacheco has continued his fight to expose the failings of the Cuban regime, resulting in further punishments.

I urge the Cuban regime to end this unethical imprisonment of Pablo Pacheco Avila. His status as a prisoner of conscience and his declining health urgently call for his immediate release.

#### RECOGNIZING 200 YEARS OF RESEARCH, SERVICE, AND STEWARDSHIP BY NOAA AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H. Con. Res. 147) recognizing 200 years of research, service to the

people of the United States, and stewardship of the marine environment by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and its predecessor agencies, and for other purposes:

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, for their 200 years of dedicated research and service to the United States.

NOAA and its predecessors conducted some of the earliest oceanographic research and have continued to serve the United States for commerce, defense, and environmental purposes. NOAA is a leader for scientific research and environmental monitoring and protection, providing an outstanding example to the international community.

NOAA continues that storied legacy in the 21st century with and oceanographic monitoring, the protection of our natural resources, its stewardship of the marine environment, and as our first line of warning for storms and hurricanes.

NOAA programs have provided invaluable service to commerce and defense, serving throughout the country's history in war and peacetime; more than 100 million maps and charts for U.S. and Allied Forces.

Their programs promote safe and efficient commerce/transportation and work toward the advancement of a global environmental observation system. Programs also include missions for the conservation of marine resources, coastal management, and protection from storms and other hazards—especially Gulf Coast hurricanes.

NOAA's National Weather Service/Weather Forecast Offices at the Corpus Christi International Airport and the Brownsville/South Padre Island International Airport provide weather and flood warnings, daily forecasts, and meteorological and hydrologic data for the South Texas Gulf Coast area.

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service/Seafood Inspection Program in Brownsville offers a voluntary inspection program for fishery products on a fee-for-service basis, as well as other services to local fishermen and fish processors.

NOAA's National Ocean Service operates seven tide stations in Texas to monitor sea level trends, provide real-time data for storm surge warning, including South Texas locations in Corpus Christi and Port Isabel.

This week I will greet NOAA researchers in my district who are seeking a new location for a weather research center. I look forward to welcoming these distinguished researchers and discussing their needs for the future weather research center.

#### HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY WENDT

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative THOMPSON to congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are being honored by Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County with the first annual Wetzel Community Leadership Award. They are being recognized for their contributions to life in Sonoma County and

their philanthropic leadership on behalf of numerous local causes and organizations.

Henry and Holly have been fixtures in Sonoma County for many years, where until recently they owned the highly regarded Quivira Vineyards. Mr. Wendt, formerly the CEO of SmithKline Beecham, spent four decades working in the pharmaceutical and health care industry, and he remains active on the boards of several major corporations.

Together, the Wendts have given greatly to the community in Sonoma County, particularly in the fields of education and health care. They offered their substantial resources to Healdsburg High School to renovate and expand the Holly and Henry Wendt Library. Mr. Wendt serves on the advisory board of the Pediatric Dental Initiative, and the Wendts' involvement has helped speed the development of the Redwood Empire Surgery Center. This facility will bring the highest quality dental care to youngsters in coastal northern California.

Mr. Wendt has given generously with his time and deep knowledge of healthcare to facilitate the work of Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County. His substantial leadership gift helped ensure that the Healdsburg District Hospital campaign was successful and the hospital remains an outstanding health care provider. Further, he has been instrumental in the success of the Community Foundation Sonoma County. Having served multiple terms as chairman of the board, he provided superb guidance and experience to help the foundation expand its resources and reach, and he remains a member of the leadership board.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, at this time it is appropriate that we congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are receiving the Wetzel Community Leadership Award. The Wendts have been dynamic and generous figures in Sonoma County, and the wisdom and guidance they bring to philanthropic endeavors has been a boon to the community.

#### HONORING HOLLY AND HENRY WENDT

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative WOOLSEY to congratulate Holly and Henry Wendt, who are being honored by Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County with the first annual Wetzel Community Leadership Award. They are being recognized for their contributions to life in Sonoma County and their philanthropic leadership on behalf of numerous local causes and organizations.

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Healdsburg High School to renovate and expand the Holly and Henry Wendt Library. In addition, their work with the Pediatric Dental Initiative, for which Mr. Wendt serves on the advisory board, has progressed the work of the soon to be opened Redwood Empire Surgery Center. This facility will bring the highest quality dental care to youngsters in coastal northern California.

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#### A TRIBUTE TO JAMES P. FREELAND

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor James P. Freeland. James was born January 7, 1940, in Durham, NC, to Willie and Annie Freeland. The youngest of six children, at age 11 he was selected as one of the Red Feather Poster Kids for the United Way Campaign representing the John Avery Boys Club for the city of Durham. He graduated high school in 1958 and was later employed by a local supermarket for 7 years as the assistant butcher.

James joined the U.S. Air Force in January 1962. He received an honorable discharge in 1966 and 3 years later moved to Brooklyn, New York, in May 1969. In February 1970, James obtained employment with the New York Telephone Company where he worked as a service technician and assistant manager. In September 1999, he retired from Verizon Communications after 29 years of dedicated service.

James joined New Canaan Baptist Church, the same year he married Gennie Chennault. In 1980, their daughter Jamelia was born. He is a member of the mass choir and the North Carolina Club. James also serves as the Men's Day chairman and president of the Building Fund Committee. In addition, he sings with the male choir and is a member of the trustee board, the Missionary Disciples Outreach Ministry and donates his time as a Sunday school teacher.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize James P. Freeland for his huge heart and generous spirit. He is a man who has a great sense of humor and who is always willing to lend a helping hand.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to James P. Free-land.

A TRIBUTE TO KIM WILLIAMS  
CLARK

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kim Williams Clark, an accomplished attorney, educator, and community leader.

Kim Williams Clark earned her B.S. in criminal justice from John Jay College, and earned her law degree from Rutgers University at Camden with the distinguished honor of receiving a Dean's list award. Daughter to community advocate Bessie L. Williams and former worker with Board of Education Jesse E. Williams, Kim currently serves as dean of the Office of Institutional Advancement at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University. In this capacity, she builds corporate and foundation support, and creates new partnerships geared toward increasing funding for university projects, student centered initiatives, and external outreach.

Prior to her work with Long Island University, Kim Williams Clark served as associate dean of the Center for Continuing Education and Professional Development at Georgetown University. In addition, she also served as special advisor to the provost, director of institutional advancement and paralegal studies at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University. During her career, she has organized resources and built alliances with government agencies and generated millions of dollars to support youth programming and urban community development. Coupled with this, she has maintained a law office in the New York City's financial district with a concentration in family and non-profit law, where she dedicates much of her time to representing indigent persons.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Kim is a member of numerous boards and councils including, the Carver Bank Scholarship Board, Greater New York and District of Columbia Chapters of the Links, Inc., and Coney Island and Crown Heights Neighborhood Advisory Board(s). Her many accomplishments have not gone unnoticed for Kim Williams Clark received the Trailblazer Award from New York State Senator Velmanette Montgomery of the 18th District. In December 2007, New Canaan Baptist Church and Congressman EDOLPHUS TOWNS will present her with the Community Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive achievements of Kim Williams Clark for her commitment to the Brooklyn community.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a great individual of high morals, ethics, and integrity.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM  
DONALD SCHAEFER

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize a true Maryland legend, Mr. William Donald Schaefer, on the occasion of his 86th birthday.

Mr. Schaefer was born in Baltimore, a city upon which he would come to have a lasting impact, on November 21, 1921. Following service in the U.S. Army during WWII, Mr. Schaefer returned to Maryland to work in law and eventually enter politics.

Over the course of 50 years, Mr. Schaefer would serve several years on the Baltimore City Council, four terms as Baltimore mayor, two terms as Maryland governor, and two terms as State Comptroller. He has left an indelible mark on Maryland and its people from his 50 years of public service.

He has become famous for his colorful personality, but his tireless efforts and dedication to public service have never wavered. He has acquired friends and admirers from both sides of the aisle because of this commitment.

His famous mantra as Baltimore mayor, "Do It Now," reflects his ability to get things done. The redeveloped and rejuvenated Baltimore, which so many of us today enjoy, is largely a result of his efforts during that time. Today, there are few Marylanders who can say that they haven't been positively affected by his leadership.

On a personal note, I had the great privilege of working for Governor Schaefer. His "do it now" philosophy provided a very valuable lesson for all of us in public office. He wanted to make sure that Maryland government addressed the needs of every Maryland resident regardless of their circumstances. He has always been one with little patience for pomp and circumstance.

On behalf of the residents of Maryland's Eighth Congressional District, I am proud to offer my best wishes to Mr. Schaefer.

HONORING LOIS CORBA

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lois Corba as she celebrates her birthday. A party will be held in her honor on December 29th in Frankenmuth, MI.

Lois was born in Tecumseh, MI, one of nine children. The family moved to Flint and after her father purchased a farm, the family moved to West Branch. She attended St. Joseph Catholic School in West Branch and graduated the salutatorian from the high school in 1951. After graduation she returned to Flint and worked for an insurance agency for 7 years. She married Paul Corba in 1957. The couple had 7 children, Michelle, Paul Michael, Jon, Marsha, Bernadette, Angela and David. Paul passed away in 1987.

Continuing to work, Lois spent 17 years working as a secretary with the AC Spark Plug Division of General Motors. She retired from

this position in 1992. After two years Lois decided to return to the workforce and became the assistant to the director of the Frankenmuth Historical Association. From there she took her current position as the receptionist with Independence Village in Frankenmuth. She is active with the Widow's Group in Frankenmuth and Blessed Trinity Catholic Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Lois Corba as she celebrates her birthday and I wish her many, many more.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I mistakenly voted against H. Res. 37, providing for the concurrence by the House in the Senate amendment to H.R. 710, with amendments. In fact, I support this critical legislation, which would make paired kidney donation legal and allow organizations like the United Network for Organ Sharing to track eligibility for paired donation.

I voted for passage of the original bill, H.R. 710, The Charlie Norwood Living Organ Donation Act, on March 7, 2007.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO  
COMMEMORATE THE 60TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE EVERGLADES  
NATIONAL PARK

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to introduce significant bipartisan legislation with my colleague and fellow co-chair of the Everglades Caucus, Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Everglades National Park.

For years, Representative DIAZ-BALART and I have been working together to preserve and restore the Everglades, and I am pleased to be introducing this resolution with him.

Sixty years ago tomorrow, President Harry S. Truman dedicated Everglades National Park. Today, this vast subtropical wilderness in the United States is habitat to many endangered species as well as an international center for business, agriculture, and tourism.

Everglades National Park has been designated an International Biosphere Reserve, a World Heritage Site, and a Wetland of International Importance in recognition of its significance to all the people of the world.

Over time, however, management and development activities have destroyed our nations' majestic wetlands. Today the River of Grass is only half of its original size.

Sadly, the ecosystem's tree islands and mangroves have been largely destroyed and its estuaries have become barren.

In response to threats to this pristine ecosystem, in 2000, Congress passed an ambitious restoration plan called the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). In



doing so, we commit the Federal government to become an equal partner with the State of Florida to restore the Everglades and protect the River of Grass.

Regrettably, since the passage of this legislation, restoration efforts in Congress have been mired. For 7 years under Republican rule, Congress failed to afford Everglades revitalization efforts the priority they deserved and failed to properly fund restoration programs.

As a result of Congress' delays in authorizing financing and developmental pressures in South Florida, the costs of repairing the Everglades have drastically soared.

Today we have a new Congress with new priorities. This Democratic Congress has worked relentlessly—in a bipartisan fashion—to keep the Federal government's end of the bargain and restore its commitment to the River of Grass.

Just last month, Congress overrode a President Bush veto and passed the Water Resources Development Act of 2007, authorizing \$1.8 billion in Everglades restoration funding, including funding the two long awaited and critical projects: the Indian River Lagoon and the Picayune Strand.

As we pause to celebrate the anniversary of the Everglades National Park tomorrow, we enhance our vigilant efforts to restore and conserve the Park to the pristine ecosystem it once was.

As Marjory Stoneman Douglas wrote in *The Everglades: River of Grass*, "There is a balance in man also, one which has set against his greed and his inertia and his foolishness. . . . Perhaps even in this last hour, in a new relation of usefulness and beauty, the vast magnificent, subtle and unique region of the Everglades may not be utterly lost."

Today, I rise to ensure that these majestic wetlands will forever be remembered, preserved and protected for all future generations of Americans to enjoy.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF RICHARD "DICK" BOWERS, FORMER ASSOCIATE DEAN, PROFESSOR AND DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND FORMER ATHLETIC DIRECTOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

### **HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to herald the life and philanthropic contributions of Richard "Dick" Bowers, and to express our gratitude for his achievements at the University of South Florida as well as in all of Florida.

Bowers, a native of Tennessee, served in the United States Army and retired with the rank of captain. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee and his doctorate in education from Vanderbilt-Peabody College. Bowers taught at various institutions ranging from King College in Bristol, TN, to the University of Rangoon, in Burma, on a Fulbright scholarship.

In 1963, Bowers moved to the Tampa area, where he assumed the University of South

Florida's first ever athletics director position. During his tenure, Bowers oversaw the creation of the university's baseball field, golf course, and SunDome basketball arena. He was honored in 1982 for his Outstanding Contribution to the Sunbelt Conference, which he helped form. After 17 years, Bowers moved from the athletic director position and became involved in the University of South Florida's college of business, where he was associate dean, professor, and director of development.

Bowers was also very influential in the Tampa Bay area through his philanthropic work. He served as president of the Gold Shield Foundation for 18 years, which raises money for families of fallen police officers and firefighters. In addition, Bowers took leadership roles in numerous other community organizations including the United Way, the National Youth Sports Program, the Tampa Chapter National Football Foundation, the Hall of Fame Bowl Selection Committee, the Northside Bank Board, the Florida State Department of Education Task Force in Physical Education, the American Heart Association, the American Cancer Society, the Tampa Sports Club, and the Hispanic Business Institute.

We honor the life of Richard "Dick" Bowers for his outstanding contribution to our wonderful Tampa Bay community, the University of South Florida and the entire State of Florida. Dick Bowers' life serves as an inspiration to all who knew him and his contributions and achievements will impact the lives of all Floridians in the future.

### **TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ANTHEM PROJECT**

### **HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize The National Anthem Project a 3-year national education campaign, led by our Nation's music educators, to raise awareness of the importance of music programs in our Nation's schools.

The National Anthem Project was launched by the National Association for Music Education in 2005, in response to a survey conducted by Harris Interactive. The Harris Poll showed that two out of three Americans did not know the words to "The Star-Spangled Banner." The National Association for Music Education believes that this lack of knowledge, concerning the words and history of our national anthem, is a direct reflection of the quality of music education in our Nation's schools.

Music programs are considered an important part of a well-rounded education. Research shows that music programs help students perform better in math and science. Music education also provides students with a greater appreciation of America's musical heritage and history, as most Americans learn the national anthem and other patriotic songs at school.

The goal of the National Anthem Project was to "restore America's voice," by re-teaching Americans to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and by spotlighting the important role of music programs in our Nation's schools.

The 3-year project began on March 10, 2005, with a kick-off celebration on Capital Hill. The kick-off was followed by a nationwide Road Show tour in 2006 and hundreds of additional project-inspired events. The National Anthem Project came to a close in June of 2007, with a 3-day Grand Finale on the grounds of the Washington Monument. The Finale featured over 5,000 participants, including celebrities, Drum Corps International, music teachers, and students from all across the United States, who gathered together to celebrate the achievements of the National Anthem Project and, of course, to sing the national anthem.

The National Anthem Project has been a great success. Not only has the project succeeded in re-teaching the words and history of our national anthem, but it has also inspired people all over the country to have a greater appreciation of America's musical heritage and the importance of music education in our Nation's schools. The National Anthem Project has garnered significant news coverage from thousands of news outlets across the country, including Fox News, CNN, and Good Morning America. The success of The National Anthem Project has even received the attention of the Senate, which passed a Resolution in July of 2007 in support of the project's goals and ideals. It is my pleasure to share with you today the achievements of the National Anthem Project.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE HENRY HYDE OF ILLINOIS**

SPEECH OF

### **HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2007*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my respects to our departed colleague, Representative Henry Hyde. I am saddened by the death of this exceptionally fine and honorable man, who so ably served not only the best interests of his constituents but, indeed, the entire nation for over 30 years in this House. Henry Hyde will be remembered in many different ways—as a skilled attorney who respected and defended the rule of law; as a stout champion of the rights of the unborn; and as a distinguished statesman who promoted peaceful and just international relations and agreements.

As I remember the life and service of Henry Hyde, one personal experience stands out in my mind. In 1984, I was involved in a closely contested race for an open Michigan State Senate seat. A prominent pro-life organization endorsed my opponent, based not on my record or his, but on unrelated reasons. This was done despite my own consistent pro-life voting record and ardent pro-life policy stance. The pro-life endorsement carried considerable weight in the district and was a noteworthy point in the campaign. Henry Hyde found out about this development, and he was outraged. He traveled up from Illinois to campaign for me, to correct what he considered a grave injustice. Of course, given the passage of the "Hyde amendment" to prevent federal funds from being used for abortions—remarkably, passed during his first term in Congress in 1974—Henry Hyde was a hero in the pro-life

movement. His public endorsement of my campaign was a significant factor in my close victory.

Mr. Speaker, I consider it an honor to have known and worked closely with Henry Hyde. I know many of us feel the same way. I hope we will uphold his legacy of defending the rule of law, promoting just international relations, and protecting the sanctity of all life.

#### TRIBUTE TO FRANK B. SOLLARS

#### HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an honorable lifelong farmer, fine American and dear friend who made significant contributions to the agricultural community for our nation.

Frank Sollars was born in 1921 in Concord Township, Ohio to Walter Eugene and Mabel Blanche Bowers Sollars and graduated from Washington High School in 1939.

Although he was a farmer by profession, Frank was also a leader in agricultural cooperatives, the insurance business and agricultural financing. As an International Cooperative Alliance Central Committee member, Frank hosted delegations from Russia, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, China, Japan, and Taiwan on the farm. Frank served as president of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and the Ohio Agricultural Marketing Association. He served as a board member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the American Agricultural Marketing Association and served on the Board of Governors of the National Agricultural Hall of Fame. He was a board member on the first Soil Conservation Service Board in Fayette County for ten years and was chairman for five years.

Frank held numerous leadership roles in the finance industry including Chairman of the Board of Nationwide Insurance, Chairman of the Board of the National Cooperative Business Association, a director of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Ohio Consumers council and a director of the Fifth Third Bank of Columbus. He served on the Federal Reserve Bank Advisory Committee and was instrumental in establishing the National Cooperative Bank in Washington, D.C. where he served as Board Chairman from 1980–1998 after being appointed by Presidents Carter, Reagan and Bush.

Commonly referred to as the “Founding Father of the National Cooperative Banks,” Frank was awarded the Stanley W. Dreyer Spirit of Cooperation Award in 2006 for his commitment and dedication to banking. In recognition of Frank as an international cooperative mentor, The Frank B. Sollars Fund for International Cooperation was established in 1998.

Locally, Frank was a member of the Fayette County Farm Bureau, Fayette County Agronomy Committee and Agronomy Club, and the Concord Township Farm Bureau Advisory Council. He served as board member of the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus representing Fayette County and was a trustee of the Southern State Community College

Foundation. Frank served on the board as chairman of the Fayette County Bank and Sollars Brothers Corporation.

Frank received numerous honors throughout his life including being inducted into the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame, Fayette Agricultural Hall of Fame, National Cooperative Business Association Hall of Fame and the Ohio Soil and Water Conservation Hall of Fame. He received the Distinguished Service Award from the Ohio Farm Bureau and was named the Outstanding Young Farmer by the Ohio Jaycees in 1956.

Although Frank has been recognized for numerous honors, he always believed his family was his greatest accomplishment. Frank gave many years of his life to improve and promote the agricultural industry he loved, because he truly believed it was his duty to serve his family and his country. He was a member of the Grace United Methodist Church.

A devout public servant, Frank was a man of honor and compassion. On behalf of the Congress, I extend sympathies to his family and gratitude for all he did to improve agriculture for our nation. His service and friendship will be missed by all.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

#### HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the 46th anniversary of independence for the United Republic of Tanzania, and to congratulate the leaders and citizens of that great Nation for all that they have achieved.

It's impossible to talk about Tanzania's history and development without remembering the Nation's founder and first president, Julius Nyerere. Mwalimu, or “Teacher,” as he was affectionately known, was a great man among African leaders of his time. He dedicated his life to building a sense of national identity and unity. He wanted his countrymen to think of themselves as Tanzanians first and foremost, and not to set themselves apart because of their religion or ethnicity. Nearly a half century later, it is clear that his dream is alive and well.

We should also commend Tanzania's president, Jakaya Kikwete, for all of his efforts to carry on the good work of Mwalimu and other Tanzanian leaders. From his leadership of Tanzania's National Testing Campaign for HIV/AIDS to his calls for greater transparency in government and an end to corruption, President Kikwete has tirelessly dedicated himself to a brighter future for his country and his people.

As Tanzania enters its 47th year of independence on December 9, 2007, let us celebrate Tanzania's legacy of peace and stability, thank Tanzania for its close friendship with the United States, and pledge ourselves to work closely with President Kikwete and his people as they move boldly into the future.

#### COMMENDING TRIANGLE STUDENTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN DARFURFAST

#### HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the students, friends and family members from the Carolina Friends School community in Durham, North Carolina who are making a simple, but powerful, statement today to raise awareness of a topic that compels the attention of this body—the plight of Sudanese citizens driven to camps for refugees and internally displaced persons, or IDPs, by the horrible genocide occurring in Darfur.

The Carolina Friends School community members, along with others from across the country and around the world, have given up one luxury item today—something like a restaurant dinner, a movie, or a cup of coffee—and will donate the money they would have spent to the Genocide Intervention Network's Civilian Protection program.

Individually, these are small sacrifices, but collectively, these donations will make a tremendous difference. IDP camp residents are under tremendous threats, despite the relative protection the camps offer. Residents must venture from the camps to obtain simple items, such as the firewood needed to cook food. But camp residents have routinely been attacked, raped, or killed by Janjaweed militia members and others when they leave the confines of the camps.

Just three dollars—the price of a cup of coffee in many places—can fund protection by UN-African Union peacekeepers for firewood gathering patrols for one camp resident over the course of an entire year. Just one cup of coffee can make a life-saving difference.

Beyond simply generating donations, the activism of these concerned citizens sends a powerful message, a cry for help in confronting a horrible tragedy. As their simple actions demonstrate, hundreds of thousands of Darfuris are dying for items we often take for granted. While the DarfurFast volunteers are asked to give up a luxury item for one day, many Darfuris go without food for days at a time. Thousands of camp residents have died from malnutrition, from preventable disease, and from lack of access to clean water. These victims are just as much casualties of the genocide as are the Darfuris killed by marauding militias.

I applaud these students and community members for their message, and I urge my colleagues to listen to it closely. Let us ask ourselves, what could we, here in Congress, give up for Darfur? Would we be willing to give up one day of spending in Iraq—worth about \$200 million—to save lives in Darfur? Would we forego even a few tax cuts for the wealthy? What are we willing to sacrifice to stop the genocide and save the lives of millions of innocent civilians threatened every day by savage militias and a heartless regime in Khartoum that refuses to stop them?

Madam Speaker, once again, let me commend these students and community members—and the individuals around the world participating in DarfurFast—for their activism. I hope we will all heed their call.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DEVIN NUNES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, December 4, 2007, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 1123—"nay"; rollcall 1124—"yes"; rollcall 1125—"yes"; rollcall 1126—"yes."

## RECOGNIZING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLINT ODYSSEY HOUSE

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Flint Odyssey House. On December 6th Flint Odyssey House will be holding an open house to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Odyssey Institute.

Dr. Judianne Densen-Gerber began her career in substance abuse treatment in 1966 working with 17 heroin addicts. She quickly realized that for successful rehabilitation, the root causes of addiction had to be addressed. She developed a model of treatment that tackled the traumatic experiences in an addict's life and its impact on a person's well-being and self-image. The treatment methodology consists of five stages: Orientation, Cocoon Phase, Incubator Phase, Self-Awareness and Reformation Phase, and Butterfly Post-Treatment. From her treatment model, the Odyssey Institute was born and now operates in communities around the world.

Started in 1979 by Ronald Sahara Brown, Flint Odyssey House was a satellite program of the Detroit Rubicon Odyssey House. When the Detroit program was forced to close its doors, Ronald Brown kept the Flint Odyssey House open. He had \$300 in food stamps and the determination to make the program a success. As a former addict and a graduate of the program, Ronald knew firsthand how beneficial the Odyssey House concept of treatment could be to a recovering substance abuser. He invited clients of the closed Detroit Rubicon Odyssey House to join him in the Flint program. With a skeleton crew, he operated the program on a shoestring. His perseverance paid off, and the Michigan Department of Social Services and the Genesee County Commission on Substance Abuse started to provide financial assistance. From that first adult treatment center, the program has grown to provide a wide range of services.

Ronald Brown has expanded Flint Odyssey House to meet the needs of the community.

The treatment facility was located in a drug- and crime-infested neighborhood, and Ronald took to the streets, reclaiming and renovating the crack houses in the area. Starting the Treat the Streets Program, Flint Odyssey House reclaimed the area and earned Ronald Sahara Brown the title of Chief of Odyssey Village. Flint Odyssey House has moved from being a substance abuse treatment agency to a human development agency and is a model for programs throughout the United States. It operates many programs, and treats hundreds of persons, including pregnant addicts and mothers with children. Accredited through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, Flint Odyssey House has expanded and now operates a program in Saginaw Michigan.

In 1993, Flint Odyssey House received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from the Michigan Department of Public Health and the Clayton R. Stroup Award. In 1996 Ronald Sahara Brown was the recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award. Ronald used the \$100,000 stipend that came with this award to purchase and operate an old-age home in the neighborhood that was about to close. This kept the residents from being evicted and provided one more service to the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with and applaud the work of Ronald Sahara Brown, the staff, volunteers and the clients of Flint Odyssey House. Their courage and determination to bring out the potential in every human being is a brilliant example of the power in each and every one of us to effect change in our world. May they continue to provide service and compassion for many, many more years.

## TRIBUTE TO MR. SANFORD HELLER

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate my constituent, Mr. Sanford Heller of Rockville, Maryland, as he prepares to celebrate his 100th birthday. Mr. Heller was born on December 27, 1907 in The Bronx, New York and lived in New York City until he has 95. He owned his own home, mortgage free, for more than 50 years.

Mr. Heller has dedicated his life to public service and took part in events that shaped our nation. During the 1930s, he processed the arrival of new immigrants at Ellis Island. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After his military service, he held positions in Federal, State, and city government.

To this day, Mr. Heller keeps himself busy. He reads the New York Times cover to cover,

has traveled to over 35 countries, and can still fit into the same tuxedo he bought during the Great Depression. He is in excellent health, takes no medication, and walks every day.

Mr. Heller, a mandolin player, also enjoys entertaining for friends, family, and fellow residents of the Ring House, where he now resides. He was married to Ethel Heller for over 64 years until her death at age 92 in 2005. He has two children, five grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. I join with Mr. Heller's family and friends in wishing him a most joyous birthday. He has my warmest congratulations and best wishes.

## RECOGNIZING NANCY CHANDLER AS AN OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, It has been said that "child abuse casts a shadow the length of a lifetime." Nancy Chandler has dedicated her life to changing this. For over 25 years, Nancy has advocated for children and improved their futures.

After receiving her Masters in Social Work from the University of Georgia, Nancy was the founding Executive Director of the Memphis Child Advocacy Center. This Center helps "victims become children again."

Since April 1994, Nancy Chandler has served as the Executive Director of the National Children's Alliance (NCA), a not-for-profit membership organization that represents more than 700 Children's Advocacy Centers. For 13 years, Nancy has led and managed NCA's finances, and developed resources, training, programs, communications, and membership services. Nancy also led and inspired a staff of dedicated advocates. As Executive Director of NCA, Nancy educated and motivated advocates at over 400 conferences and workshops across the United States.

Throughout her remarkable career in children's advocacy, Nancy was a member of Leadership Memphis and a founding board member of the National Network of Children's Advocacy Centers. She also served on the National Advisory Committee for Darkness to Light, a primary prevention program aimed at reducing the incidence and consequence of child sexual abuse, and as Senior Warden of The Church of the Epiphany in Washington, DC. Nancy has proven herself as an experienced leader and a compassionate advocate for children.

And that's just the way it is.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## DECEMBER 11

10 a.m.

## Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the supplemental request for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SD-106

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine S. 1673, to facilitate the export of United States agricultural products to Cuba as authorized by the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000, to remove impediments to the export to Cuba of medical devices and medicines, to allow travel to Cuba by United States citizens, to establish an agricultural export promotion program with respect to Cuba.

SD-215

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the global challenge of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria.

SD-430

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine e-government 2.0, focusing on improving innovation, collaboration, and access.

SD-342

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

## Investigations Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings with the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy to examine the role of speculation in recent crude oil prices.

SH-216

## Judiciary

## Terrorism, Technology and Homeland Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the legal rights of Guantanamo detainees, focusing on what they are, should they be changed, and is there an end in sight.

SD-226

2 p.m.

## Judiciary

## Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Sunshine in Litigation Act, focusing on whether court secrecy undermines public health and safety.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2156, to authorize and facilitate the improvement of water management by the Bureau of Reclamation, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Energy to increase the acquisition and analysis of water resources for irrigation, hydroelectric power, municipal, and environmental uses.

SD-366

## DECEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.

## Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine S. 1782, to amend chapter 1 of title 9 of United States Code with respect to arbitration.

SD-226

10 a.m.

## Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 579, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer, an original bill entitled "Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration", and any pending nominations.

SD-430

## Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Jeffrey William Runge, of

North Carolina, to be Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, and Harvey E. Johnson, Jr., of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer, Federal Emergency Management Agency, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

## Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine a recently released Government Accountability Office report, focusing on funding challenges and facilities maintenance at the Smithsonian Institution.

SR-301

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

## Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety and Security Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, focusing on truck driver hours-of-service (HOS) rules and truck safety.

SR-253

10:30 a.m.

## Aging

To hold hearings to examine reverse mortgages, focusing on polishing not tarnishing the golden years.

SD-628

## DECEMBER 13

9:30 a.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine ways to reform the Mining Law of 1872.

SD-366

10 a.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

## Energy and Natural Resources

## Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction efforts in the forests of Oregon and Washington.

SD-366

## DECEMBER 19

10 a.m.

## Judiciary

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Mark R. Filip, of Illinois, to be Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226